F1 Cont

the present invention. Therapeutic genes are generally delivered as part of an expression construct, although other formats are possible.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 52-54 without prejudice to future prosecution.

Please amend claims 38 as follows.

38. (Four times amended) A method of introducing a nucleic acid encoding a foreign gene into a cell in a patient, said method comprising the steps of

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(a) first administering a cell cycle blocking agent to said patient, wherein said cell cycle blocking agent is a member selected from the group consisting of cyclophosphamide, taxol, taxolene, and a vinca alkaloid; and

(b) second administering said nucleic acid to said patient within seven days of step (a), wherein transfection efficiency is increased by at least 50%.

69. (Twice amended) A method of inhibiting growth of cancer cells in a patient having a cancer comprising introducing a nucleic acid encoding a foreign gene into a cell in a patient having cancer, said method comprising the steps of:

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(a) first administering a cell cycle blocking agent to said patient, wherein said cell cycle blocking agent is a member selected from the group consisting of cyclophosphamide, taxol, taxolene, and a vinca alkaloid; and

(b) second administering said nucleic acid to said patient within seven days of step (a), wherein said nucleic acid is administered systemically, and wherein transfection efficiency is increased by at least 50%.

74. (Twice amended) A method of treating a patient having a cancer comprising introducing a nucleic acid encoding a foreign gene into a cell in said patient, said method comprising the steps of:

F4